

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| First Named Inventor: | Kazuyo WATANABE | § | |
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| Conf. No.: | 5329 | § | Group Art Unit: 2624 |
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| Appln. No.: | 10/802,681 | § | Examiner: David Rashid |
| | | § | |
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| | | § | |
| Title: | IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD AND IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS | | |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1) AND §1.97(c)(1)

Enclosed is an Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO/SB/08A and/or 08B in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(1) and (a)(2) listing all patents, publications, applications, and/or other information being submitted for consideration which may be material to the patentability of this application and/or for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. Also enclosed are copies of each of the foreign patents and/or non-patent literature documents cited therein but not copies of any U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent application publications in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2). However, we will provide copies upon request.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that any of the listed documents constitutes prior art, nor as an admission against interest in any manner.

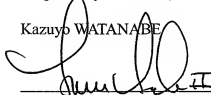
I hereby certify that each document cited in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in an Office Action (copy enclosed) dated July 24, 2007 from the Japanese Patent Office in counterpart Japanese Application No. 2003-071267 not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement. Please note, Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-134467 was previously submitted to the Patent Office in an Information Disclosure Statement dated June 14, 2004. A translation of pertinent portions of the Office Action is also enclosed.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1017 (Billing No. 20976.0027).

It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement and the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A and/or 08B be considered and acknowledged by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, be made of record therein, and that the listed document(s) be cited in the issued patent.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures